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Application No.: 10/520,944

Docket No.: 4444-051

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently amended) Vessel according to Claim ~~[[35]]40~~ further comprising a heater of an upper surface of the water flow channel.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently amended) Vessel according to Claim ~~[[35]]40~~, further comprising a regulator for the temperature inside the holding tank.

20. (Currently amended) Vessel according to Claim ~~[[35]]40~~, wherein the holding tank includes:

an inlet adapted to be connected to the inlet of the water flow channel, the holding tank inlet being formed by an upper edge of said tank and adapted to be located close to the surface of the water, and

an outlet adapted to be connected to the outlet of said channel, the holding tank outlet being formed by an orifice in a bottom of said tank and adapted to be obstructed by a closure in response to said tank being full of liquid waste.

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21. (Previously presented) Vessel according to Claim 20, wherein the closure comprises a float having at least one surface for covering the orifice which forms the outlet of the tank, the float having a density greater than that of the liquid waste and lower than that of the water.

22. (Currently amended) Vessel according to Claim ~~[[35]]40~~, wherein the vessel also includes a solid waste retainer located in ~~[[a]]~~the first and second trajectories of said channel upstream of the first part of the channel.

23.-24. (Cancelled)

25. (Currently amended) Vessel according to Claim ~~[[24]]22~~, wherein the solid waste retainer comprises first and second grills which are at different angles relative to the coincident portions of the first and second trajectories and are secured to one another to form an assembly that can move with respect to said vessel.

26. (Currently amended) Vessel according to Claim ~~[[35]]40~~, wherein the turbine is also arranged~~[[used]]~~ for driving said vessel in motion, and has (a) an inlet downstream of the outlet of the water flow channel and (b) an outlet for producing a water jet towards the outside of said vessel, below the surface of the body of water or waterway.

27. (Previously presented) Vessel according to Claim 26, wherein the turbine outlet includes a deflector having an adjustable position for determining a direction of the jet of water produced by said turbine.

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28. (Currently amended) Vessel according to Claim ~~[[35]]40~~, wherein the vessel includes at least two hulls which are secured to one another and are substantially parallel to one another, said hulls being separated by a distance defining the water flow channel width.

29. (Previously presented) Vessel according to Claim 28, further comprising a fairing that connects the bottom of said hulls, said fairing being positioned on the vessel from the surface of the body of water or waterway by a distance defining the water flow channel depth.

30. (Previously presented) Vessel according to Claim 29, further including rolling elements on a lower surface of the fairing, the rolling elements being positioned and arranged so they roll and bear the load of the vessel during movement of the vessel on dry land.

31. (Canceled)

32. (Previously presented) Vessel according to Claim 20, wherein the holding tank inlet and outlet are respectively connected to the water flow channel inlet and outlet.

33-36. (Canceled)

37. (Currently amended) The vessel of claim ~~[[35]]40~~ wherein the tank is formed to have a decreasing surface area as the depth of the tank increases for providing the

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Venturi effect.

38. (Previously presented) The structure of claim 36 wherein the tank is formed to have a decreasing surface area as the depth of the tank increases for providing the Venturi effect.

39. (Previously presented) Vessel for collecting on board the vessel waste that is close to and/or on a surface of a body of water or a waterway, said vessel comprising a floating liquid waste holding tank, a water flow channel arranged in said vessel between a water inlet and a water outlet of the vessel, and a turbine for creating a water flow in the water flow channel,

the water flow channel being downstream from said inlet and upstream from an inlet of the tank such that liquid including liquid waste can flow from the inlet into the tank,

the holding tank including: (a) an inlet adapted to be connected to the inlet of the water flow channel, the holding tank inlet being formed by an upper edge of said tank and adapted to be located close to the surface of the water, and (b) an outlet adapted to be connected to the outlet of said channel, the holding tank outlet being formed by an orifice in a bottom of said tank and adapted to be obstructed by a closure in response to said tank being full of liquid waste;

the closure comprising a float having at least one surface for covering the orifice

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which forms the outlet of the tank, the float having a density greater than that of the liquid waste and lower than that of the water.

40. (New) A vessel for collecting on board the vessel waste that is close to and/or on a surface of a body of water or a water way, said vessel comprising:

a floating liquid waste holding tank,

a water flow channel arranged in said vessel between a water inlet of the vessel and a water outlet of the channel, and

a turbine for (a) creating a water flow in the water flow channel and (b) causing liquid flowing through the channel outlet to flow through the turbine, thence outboard of the vessel,

the water flow channel and the turbine being arranged for causing (a) liquid with liquid waste and liquid without liquid waste to flow together in a first part of the channel, (b) the liquid with liquid waste and liquid without liquid waste to be separated downstream of the first part of the channel into first and second trajectories, respectively, (c) the liquid in the first trajectory to flow into the tank, (d) the liquid emerging from the tank, without liquid waste and in the first trajectory, to flow through the turbine, and (e) the liquid in the second trajectory to flow downstream of the first part of the channel to by-pass the tank and to flow through the turbine,

the tank being formed to cause liquid in the first trajectory in the tank to flow with a Venturi effect.

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41. (New) The vessel of claim 40 further including a solid waste retainer located between the vessel inlet and the first part of the channel, the solid waste retainer being arranged for causing liquid including liquid waste and solid waste to flow from the water inlet of the vessel into the solid waste retainer and liquid in the first and second trajectories to flow from the solid waste retainer, the first part of the channel being downstream of the solid waste retainer.

42. (New) Apparatus adapted to be located on a vessel for collecting on board the vessel waste that is close to and/or on a surface of a body of water or a water way, said apparatus comprising:

a floating liquid waste holding tank,

a water flow channel adapted to be arranged in said vessel between a water inlet of the vessel and a water outlet of the channel, and

a turbine for (a) creating a water flow in the water flow channel and (b) causing liquid flowing through the channel outlet to flow through the turbine, thence outboard of the vessel,

the water flow channel and the turbine being arranged for causing (a) liquid with liquid waste and liquid without liquid waste to flow together in a first part of the channel, (b) the liquid with liquid waste and liquid without liquid waste to be separated downstream of the first part of the channel into first and second trajectories, respectively, (c) the liquid in the first trajectory to flow into the tank, (d) the liquid

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emerging from the tank, without liquid waste and in the first trajectory, to flow through the turbine, and (e) the liquid in the second trajectory to flow downstream of the first part of the channel to by-pass the tank and to flow through the turbine,

the tank being formed to cause liquid in the first trajectory in the tank to flow with a Venturi effect.

43. (New) The apparatus of claim 42 further including a solid waste retainer adapted to be located between the vessel inlet and the first part of the channel, the solid waste retainer being arranged for causing liquid including liquid waste and solid waste to flow from the inlet into the solid waste retainer and liquid in the first and second trajectories to flow from the solid waste retainer, the first part of the channel being downstream of the solid waste retainer.